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On February 17, 2004
By: Dorothy S. Daghe

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

STEPHEN W. DOWNING

Application No.: 09/881,045

Filed: June 15, 2001

For: APPARATUSES AND METHODS FOR
PERFORMING MINIMALLY
INVASIVE DIAGNOSTIC AND
SURGICAL PROCEDURES INSIDE OF
A BEATING HEART

Confirmation No. 5171

Examiner: VI X NGUYEN

T.C./Art Unit: 3731

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 27, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.